



Port Security Information Bulletin PSIB 11-03



Change in Homeland Security Threat Advisory Status

The Homeland Security Threat Advisory has been raised from Yellow (Elevated) to Orange (High). The Coast Guard has no specific maritime threat information regarding the Houston-Galveston port areas. If such information becomes available to the Coast Guard it will be conveyed through appropriate communications channels and released as soon as possible in accordance with federal security regulations.

In the absence of specific threat information, waterfront facilities and vessel owners, operators, and agents should review the interim Maritime Security 2 measures and implement those measures appropriate for the Orange threat advisory. The interim measures were previously distributed by the Captain of the Port and endorsed by the Port Security Subcommittee.

If you do not already possess the measures, they may be picked up at the Marine Safety Office at 9640 Clinton Drive, Galena Park between 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. In order to obtain the measures a Sensitive Security Information [form](#) will be required. No appointment is necessary.

The Transportation Security Information Report 03-03 recommends that all persons should be alert to any suspicious activity and should evaluate current security procedures. All vessel and facility operators are advised to report all suspicious persons or activities to MSO Houston-Galveston at (713) 671-5100 ext. 0, MSU Galveston at (409) 766-5400, or VTS Houston/Galveston at (713) 671-5103. (See the attached list of activities that may be considered suspicious.)

Local Coast Guard commands will continue to coordinate with government agencies and the maritime community to ensure that all stakeholders in the Ports of Houston, Galveston, Freeport and Texas City are maintaining a heightened state of vigilance and readiness.

KEVIN S. COOK
Captain, U. S. Coast Guard
Captain of the Port

ATTACHMENT TO PSIB 11-03

The following is a list of activities that may be considered suspicious in the vicinity of critical waterfront facilities and vessels as well as energy and transportation related infrastructure:

1. Unknown persons taking photographs of vessels, facilities or infrastructure;
2. Unknown persons attempting to gain access to facilities, vessels, or infrastructure related areas;
3. Suspicious individuals establishing businesses or roadside food stands adjacent or in proximity to facilities or infrastructure;
4. Unknown persons loitering in the vicinity of facilities, vessels, and infrastructure for extended periods of time;
5. Unknown persons calling facilities to ascertain security procedures;
6. Vehicles with personnel loitering in the vicinity of facilities, vessels, and infrastructure for extended periods of time, perhaps taking pictures or making sketches or diagrams;
7. Small boats with personnel on them loitering in the vicinity of facilities, vessels, and infrastructure for extended periods of time;
8. Suspicious General Aviation aircraft operating in the vicinity of facilities, vessels, and infrastructure for extended periods of time;
9. Any bomb threat to a vessel, waterfront facility, or transportation related infrastructure asset;
10. Unknown persons attempting to gain information about facilities, vessels or transportation related infrastructure by walking up to personnel or their families and engaging them in conversation;
11. Suspicious vendors attempting to sell merchandise in the vicinity of facilities, vessels, or transportation related infrastructure;
12. Theft of facility or company vehicles, vehicle passes, personnel identification cards, personnel uniforms, or documents containing Standard Operating Procedures;
13. Unknown or suspicious workmen or repair personnel trying to gain access to a vessel or facility;
14. Suspicious emails on the internet, unknown public affairs personnel trying to gather information regarding a facility, vessel, or transportation related infrastructure;
15. Suspicious package drop offs or attempted drop offs;
16. Anti-American sentiment being expressed by employees or vendors;
17. Anti-American pamphlets, or flyers distributed to employees or placed on windshields or in parking lots.